Strategic Advisory Committee

Ray Perryman, PhD
Co-Leader
North Region
Founder and President of The Perryman Group (TPG), an economic and financial analysis firm headquartered in Waco, Texas. He is widely regarded as one of the world’s most influential and innovative economists. His complex modeling systems form a basis for corporate and governmental planning around the globe. His thousands of academic and trade articles and presentations span a wide variety of topics, gaining him international respect and acclaim. He has also authored several books, including Survive & Conquer, an account of the Texas economy during the turbulent 1980s, and The Measurement of Monetary Policy, a treatise on Federal Reserve activity. Dr. Perryman authors The Perryman Economic Forecast, a subscription service detailing projections of state and metro area business activity, and The Perryman Report & Texas Letter, a succinct newsletter providing vital information about various aspects of the Texas economy. Dr. Perryman also writes a weekly syndicated column, The Economist, and hosts a daily syndicated radio commentary on economic affairs, “The Perryman Report.”

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Patricia S. Yoder-Wise, RN, EdD, NEA-BC, ANEF, FAAN
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President of The Wise Group, a consulting firm related to nursing, communication, and leadership. She is Professor Emerita and Dean Emerita at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (Lubbock) where she teaches leadership. She is an adjunct faculty at Texas Woman’s University-Houston where she teaches policy and professional writing. She also serves as the Writing Coach for the University of Texas at Arlington. In addition to serving as editor in chief of two nursing journals and author and editor of numerous articles and several textbooks, Pat is the Treasurer of the American Academy of Nursing and President of the Council on Graduate Education for the Administration in Nursing. Her extensive state and national leadership experience provide her with a vast network of resources to link to the efforts of the implementation of the IOM/RWJF work.

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Commander (CDR) James L. Dickens, NP-C, FAANP  
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The Senior Program Officer for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH) in the Dallas Regional Office. He joined OASH in 2010 and is a Lead for the Office of Minority Health covering the five state area of Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and New Mexico. CDR Dickens is an experience RN and Board Certified Family Nurse Practitioner with over twenty years of combined federal health care experience. As a member of the Uniformed Services, responds to national disasters and currently serves on a Regional Incident Support Team and continually prepares for national disasters and emergencies. CDR Dickens has deployed to Afghanistan multiple times, and was responsible for the training of over one hundred nurses and lay midwives in the clinical standards of practice of the operating theater. James is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and the North Texas Nurse Practitioners Association.

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Nancy Dickey, MD  
Central Region

President of the Texas A&M Health Science Center and the vice chancellor for health affairs for The Texas A&M University System. Prior to her current appointment, Dr. Dickey served as interim dean of the HSC-College of Medicine from June 2000 until Dec. 31, 2001. She assumed her current office on Jan. 1, 2002. Dr. Dickey is a past president of the American Medical Association, the founding program director of the Medicine Residency of the Brazos Valley, and professor of family and community medicine at the HSC-College of Medicine. The Texas A&M Health Science Center is a university of the health sciences that includes the College of Medicine, College of Nursing, Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy, Baylor College of Dentistry, School of Rural Public Health, Institute of Biosciences and Technology, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and other institutes and academic programs. Under Dr. Dickey’s leadership, the health science center is growing in the number of programs and number of graduates, expanding its research programs, and extending its service to the citizens of Texas. In addition to serving as president of the AMA in 1998-99, Dr. Dickey has participated in numerous other professional organizations including the American Academy of Family Physicians, the Texas Academy of Family Physicians, the Texas Medical Association and the National Patient Safety Foundation. Among Dr. Dickey’s many honors are five honorary doctoral degrees and election to the prestigious Institute of Medicine. She writes for a number of medical and health policy journals, speaks frequently at professional and civic organizations around the country and the world, and is an editor for both an online and print journal.

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Janiece Longoria, JD  
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Ms. Longoria is an honors graduate of the University of Texas, and received her J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 1979. She is an equity partner with Ogden Gibson Broocks Longoria & Hall LLP. She concentrates her practice in securities litigation and securities arbitration before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). Her commercial litigation experience also includes significant representation of clients in the energy industry. She serves on the Board of Directors of CenterPoint Energy, Inc., the third largest publicly traded natural gas delivery company in the U.S., and the provider of electricity transmission and distribution service for the Houston metropolitan area and natural gas distribution service in six states. She chairs CenterPoint Energy’s Strategic Planning Committee, and serves on its compensation committee. She is the former Vice Chairman of the University of Texas System Board of Regents, and former Chair of the Health Affairs and Academic Affairs Committees. She is also a former board member of UTIMCO, where she chaired its audit committee and served on its compensation committee.  
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Camille Miller, MSSW  
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President and CEO of Texas Health Institute (THI) since 1996. After completing bachelor’s and master’s degrees in sociology and social work, Miller gained extensive experience in policy research and development, planning, researching and developing state policy to address health and human services issues. Ms. Miller serves on numerous boards throughout the state of Texas. In 2009, Ms. Miller received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Social Workers, Texas Chapter, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Social Workers. In May 2010, she was granted the Honorary degree of Doctor of Public Service by the Board of Regents of the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth, Texas.  
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Cliff L. Norman, MS  
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A consultant with Associates in Process Improvement (API). API develops methods and provides consulting, education and training to help organizations improve the value of their products and services. Cliff is a faculty and improvement advisor at the Institute of Healthcare Improvement. With more than 20 years of experience in manufacturing and quality, Cliff began his career at Norris Industries and McDonnell Douglas Corporation. From 1979 – 1986, he facilitated the effort to implement quality improvement throughout Otis Engineering, a division of Halliburton. While at Otis, he served as a manager in manufacturing and held several positions in the quality organization. In 1986, Cliff joined Philip Crosby Associates, where he led the effort to introduce SPC and Statistical Thinking to their educational offering. In 1988, Cliff joined API and moved to Austin, Texas. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from California State University at Los Angeles and a Master’s degree in Behavioral Science from California State University at Dominguez Hills. He is a member of the American Society for Quality, and is a Certified Quality Engineer (CQE). He has also been active in Junior Achievement as an advisor and corporate administrator. Cliff is a co-author of the book, The Improvement Guide – A Practical Approach to Enhancing Organizational Performance.

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Richard B. Ponder, BS  
Central Region

Since joining Johnson & Johnson in 1981 as a Sales Representative for Ethicon, Inc., Richard has held numerous positions of responsibility within the company. During the twenty years he was involved in the marketing and sales of medical devices, Richard helped launch over forty new products for the health care industry. In 2001, Richard joined Johnson & Johnson, U.S. Government Affairs. Currently, he represents Johnson & Johnson interest in Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Richard received a B.S. degree in Biomedical Science from Texas A&M University, and serves on the TAMU, College of Science, External Advisory and Development Council. Additionally, Richard is Treasurer and on the Board of Directors for the Texas Healthcare & Bioscience Institute. He is also the current Chair of the PhRMA, Texas Task Force.

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Shirley A. Reed, MBA, EdD

South Region

Founding president of South Texas College (STC. She has over 35 years of experience in higher education administration. Under Dr. Reed’s leadership STC has grown to five campuses serving over 30,000 credit students per semester and employing over 2,100 faculty and staff. Dr. Reed has a Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from Illinois State University, a Master’s in Business Administration from Western International University and Master’s in Library Science from the University of Hawaii. She completed her undergraduate work at the University of South Florida in English Education. Dr. Reed also has an Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts from St. Petersburg Junior College.

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Kenneth I. Shine, MD

Central Region

Former President of the Institute of Medicine (IOM), is the founding Director of the RAND Center for Domestic and International Health Security. He leads the Center’s efforts to make health a central component of U.S. foreign policy and guide the Center’s evolving research agenda. Dr. Shine brings to this new role decades-long experience working with international health experts on global issues such as emerging infectious illnesses, bioethics, and access to care. Under Dr. Shine’s leadership, the IOM played an important and visible role in addressing key issues in medicine and health care. IOM reports on quality of care and patient safety heightened national awareness of these issues. IOM researchers led studies on nutrition, food safety, and child development, and examined availability and side effects of vaccines.

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Patricia L. Starck, DNS, RN, FAAN  
Gulf Coast Region

Has spent 45 years in nursing education, with 33 of those years as Dean/Director of nursing schools in three universities in Georgia, Alabama, and Texas. During those years, she has published 47 articles, 7 book chapters, and 1 unique book on Human Suffering, a scholarship area she started at the University of Alabama in Birmingham during her doctoral studies with spinal cord injured patients at Spain Rehabilitation Center. For the past 26 years Dr. Starck has served as Dean, School of Nursing at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston where US News and World Report ranks its graduate programs as being in the nation’s top 5%. She earned her degrees from Emory University and the University of Alabama in Birmingham and was recently named as one of the 60 Distinguished Alumni of UAB’s 11,000 graduates upon that institution’s 60th anniversary. She served two terms as President of the Southern Regional Education Board’s Council of Collegiate Educators in Nursing, comprised of 16 states and the District of Columbia. In this role, she initiated a region-wide electronic campus for sharing courses to prepare more nurse educators. Over the years, Dr. Starck has raised millions of dollars to support nursing, including funds to build a $58 million building, scholarships, endowed professorships/chairs, and other needs.

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Sandra B. Tovar, MSN, RN, PNP-BC, AE-C  
South Region

Involved in nursing and health care legislative issues since 1980. While attending The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing she volunteered with her state representative at the Capitol. Since then, she has represented nursing in various positions at the local, state and national levels. In 1992 she was appointed by Lt. Governor Bob Bullock to the Center for Rural Health Initiatives Executive Committee. She has served the children and families of south Texas for nearly 30 years as a pediatric nurse practitioner. She has worked in the areas of pediatric cardiology, general pediatrics, and allergy, asthma and immunology. As a Certified Asthma Educator she provides in-services for the schools and the community.

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Yvonne VanDyke, RN, MSN  
**Central Region**

The system vice-president for nursing education, practice, research and administrator of the Clinical Education Center-Brackenridge at Seton Family of Hospitals (SETON). She is responsible for providing strategic leadership and oversight of the education, professional development, practice, and research activities for more than 3000 nurses employed by SETON. Prior to coming to work at SETON in 2006, Yvonne was executive dean for Austin Community College’s fourteen health careers programs. VanDyke has contributed to several nursing textbooks and has made numerous presentations. She is a site visitor for the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission and holds membership in a number of professional nursing organizations. Yvonne received her Bachelor’s of Science degree in Nursing from Prairie View A& M University and her Master of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Texas at Austin.

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Roger Williams, MS  
**West Region**

Roger Williams, a native of Washington, DC, received bachelor and master’s degrees from Brigham Young University and pursued doctoral studies at the University of Illinois. Immediately thereafter, he worked in the corporate Human Resources office of General Tire & Rubber in Akron, OH. After joining Bell Helicopter in 1979, he became the Personnel Manager in 1982, and was responsible for the start-up for the Canadian and Mexican operations; he spent his last ten years in Fort Worth as the Director of Employee Relations. He was the first management employee of Bell Helicopter to arrive full-time in Amarillo in 1999 as the Director of Administration and is now assigned as the Director of Site Operations for Bell’s Military Aircraft Assembly Center in Amarillo. Mr Williams taught as an adjunct professor in the University of Dallas MBA program for thirteen years and served on the Tarrant County Private Industry Council for 15 years, four as the Chair. He was appointed to the Governor’s Commission on Defense Industry Conversion, the State Job Training Coordinating Council and the Texas Council on Workforce and Economic Development. He is also past Chair of the Panhandle Workforce Development Board, a past chair of the Northwest Texas HealthCare Systems Board of Governors, past Chair of the Governor’s Aerospace and Defense Industry Cluster and as a member of the West Texas A&M University Foundation Board of Trustees and other civic boards.

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